

Claims

1 1. A method for loading a software platform onto a computer system, comprising the
2 following steps.

3 providing a control file having entries of computer system identifiers;
4 designating a computer system and a software platform using an interface;

5 and

6 querying the control file to identify an entry having computer system
7 identifiers that pertain to the designated computer system.

1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

2 creating a boot disk; and

3 loading the designated software platform onto the designated computer
4 system using the boot disk.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the designating step comprises the steps of:

2 entering particular computer system identifiers into the interface; and

3 selecting a particular software platform using the interface.

1 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the entering step comprises the steps of:

2 entering a particular computer model identifier into the interface; and

3 entering a particular computer submodel identifier into the interface.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the entries in the control file further comprise
2 support data.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the support data comprises licensing data and
2 technical data.

1 7. The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of displaying the support data
2 from the identified entry.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the designated software platform is loaded onto
2 the computer system based upon the support data.

1 9. A method for loading a software platform onto a computer system, comprising the
2 following steps:

3 providing a control file having entries, wherein each entry comprises
4 computer system identifiers and support data;

5 entering particular computer system identifiers into an interface;

6 selecting a particular software platform using the interface;

7 querying the control file to identify an entry having computer system
8 identifiers that match the entered computer system identifiers; and

9 loading the selected software platform onto a computer system having the
10 entered computer system identifiers.

1 10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of displaying the support
2 data corresponding to the identified entry.

1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the software platform is loaded based upon the
2 displayed support data.

1 12. The method of claim 9, wherein the support data comprises licensing data and
2 technical data.

1 13. The method of claim 9, wherein the computer system identifiers comprise a
2 computer model identifier and a computer sub model identifier.

1 14. A method for loading a software platform onto a computer system, comprising
2 the following steps:
3 entering a particular computer model identifier and a particular computer
4 submodel identifier into an interface;
5 selecting a particular software platform using the interface;
6 locating a control file having entries, wherein each entry comprises computer
7 model identifiers, computer submodel identifiers, and support data;
8 querying the located control file to identify an entry having a computer
9 model identifier and a computer submodel identifier that match the entered
10 computer model identifier and computer submodel identifier;
11 displaying the support data from the identified entry; and
12 loading the selected software platform onto a computer system having the
13 entered identifiers based upon the displayed support data.

1 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the support data comprises licensing data and
2 technical data.

1 16. A system for loading a software platform onto a computer system, comprising:
2 an interface for entering computer system identifiers and for selecting a
3 software platform;
4 a query system for querying a control file to identify an entry in the control
5 file having computer system identifiers that match the entered computer system
6 identifiers; and
7 a boot system for creating a boot disk for the selected software platform to be
8 loaded onto a computer system having the entered computer system identifiers.

1 17. The system of claim 16, wherein the interface comprises:
2 an entry system for entering computer system identifiers; and
3 a selection system for selecting a software platform.

1 18. The system of claim 16, wherein the computer system identifiers comprise a
2 computer model identifier and a computer sub model identifier.

1 19. The system of claim 16, wherein the control file comprises entries, and wherein
2 each entry includes computer system identifiers and support data.

1 20. The system of claim 19, further comprising a display system for displaying the
2 support data from the identified entry.

1 21. The system of claim 19, wherein the selected software platform is loaded onto
2 the computer system based upon the displayed support data.

1 22. The system of claim 16, wherein the selected software platform is an operating
2 system.

1 23. A system for loading a software platform onto a computer system, comprising:
2 an entry system for entering computer system identifiers;
3 a selection system for selecting a software platform;
4 a query system for querying a control file to identify an entry having
5 computer system identifiers that match the entered computer system identifiers; and
6 a boot system for creating a boot disk for the selected software platform to be
7 loaded onto a computer system having the entered computer system identifiers.

1 24. The system of claim 23, wherein the entry system and the selection system
2 comprise an interface.

1 25. The system of claim 23, wherein the computer system identifiers comprise a
2 computer model identifier and a computer submodel identifier.

1 26. The system of claim 23, wherein the control file comprises entries, and wherein
2 each entry includes a computer model identifier, a computer submodel identifier,
3 and support data.

1 27. The system of claim 26, further comprising a display system for displaying the
2 support data from the identified entry.

1 28. The system of claim 27, wherein the selected software platform is loaded onto
2 the computer system based upon the displayed support data.

1 29. A system for loading a software platform onto a computer system, comprising:

2 an interface having:

3 an entry system for entering a computer model identifier and a

4 computer submodel identifier; and

5 a selection system for selecting a software platform;

6 a query system for querying a control file to identify an entry in the control

7 file having a computer model identifier and a computer submodel identifier that

8 match the entered computer model identifier and computer submodel identifier;

9 a display system for displaying support data from the identified entry; and

10 a boot system for creating a boot disk for the selected software platform to be

11 loaded onto a computer system having the entered computer model identifier and

12 computer submodel identifier.

1 30. A program product stored on a recordable medium for loading a software
2 platform onto a computer system, which when executed, comprises:
3 an interface for entering computer system identifiers and for selecting a
4 software platform;
5 a query system for querying a control file to identify an entry in the control
6 file having computer system identifiers that match the entered computer system
7 identifiers; and
8 a boot system for creating a boot disk for the selected software platform to be
9 loaded onto a computer system having the entered computer system identifiers.

1 31. The program product of claim 30, wherein the interface comprises:
2 an entry system for entering computer system identifiers; and
3 a selection system for selecting a software platform identifier.

1 32. The program product of claim 30, wherein the computer system identifiers
2 comprise a computer model identifier and a computer sub model identifier.

1 33. The program product of claim 30, wherein the control file comprises entries, and
2 wherein each entry includes computer system identifiers and support data.

1 34. The program product of claim 33, further comprising a display system for
2 displaying the support data from the identified entry, wherein the software platform
3 is loaded based upon the displayed support data.

1 35. A program product stored on a recordable medium for loading a software
2 platform onto a computer system, which when executed, comprises:
3 an interface for entering computer system identifiers and for selecting a
4 software platform;
5 program code configured to query a control file to identify an entry in the
6 control file having computer system identifiers that match the entered computer
7 system identifiers;
8 program code configured to display support data from the identified entry;
9 and
10 program code configured to create a boot disk for the selected software
11 platform to be loaded onto a computer system having the entered computer system
12 identifiers.